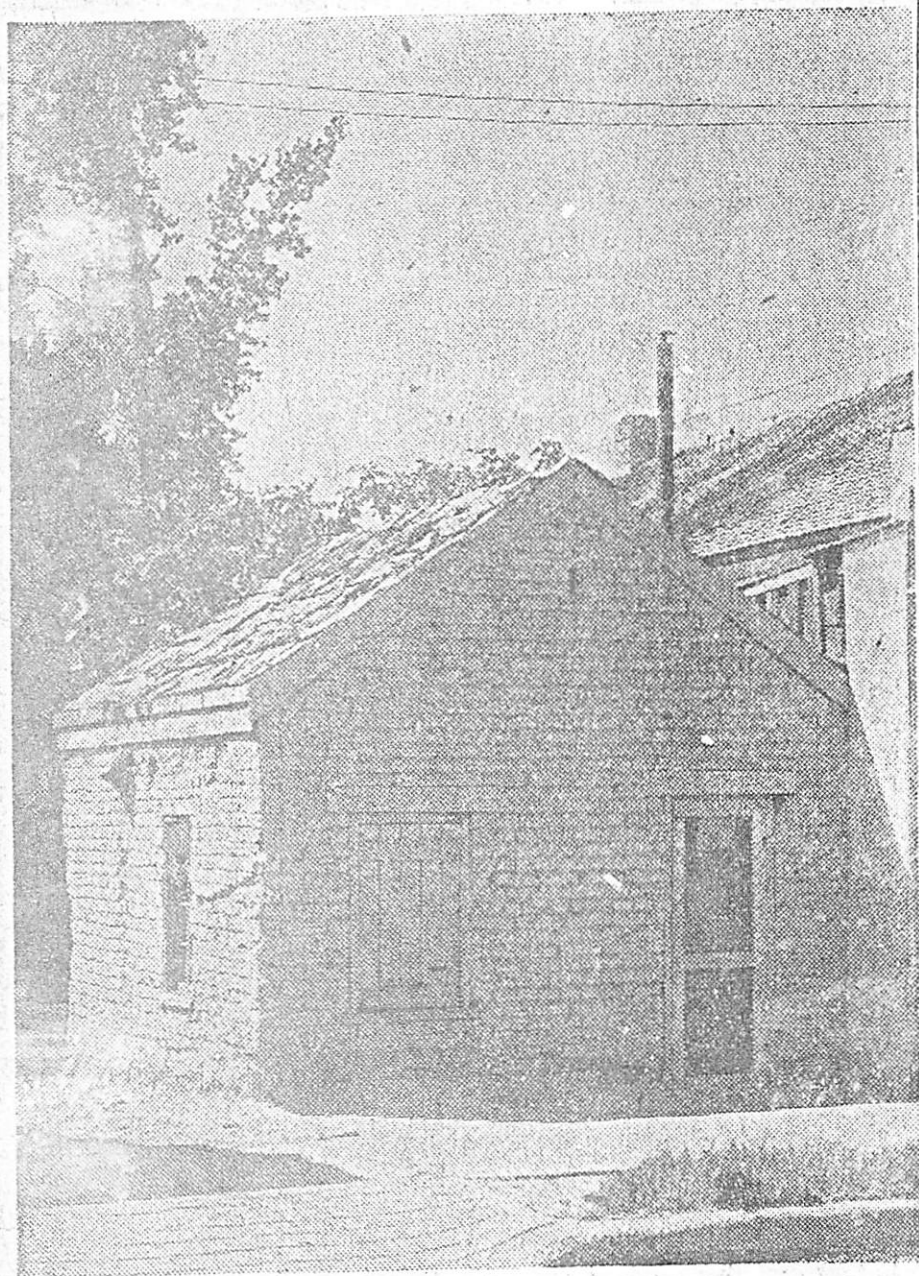


## First in the West:



**ST GEORGE POST OFFICE** — Built by John Pymm in 1869, this adobe building was the first separate post office building in the west. It still stands in St. George.

# Utah's First Postoffice Erected at St. George

(Submitted By Florence G.  
Fairbanks)

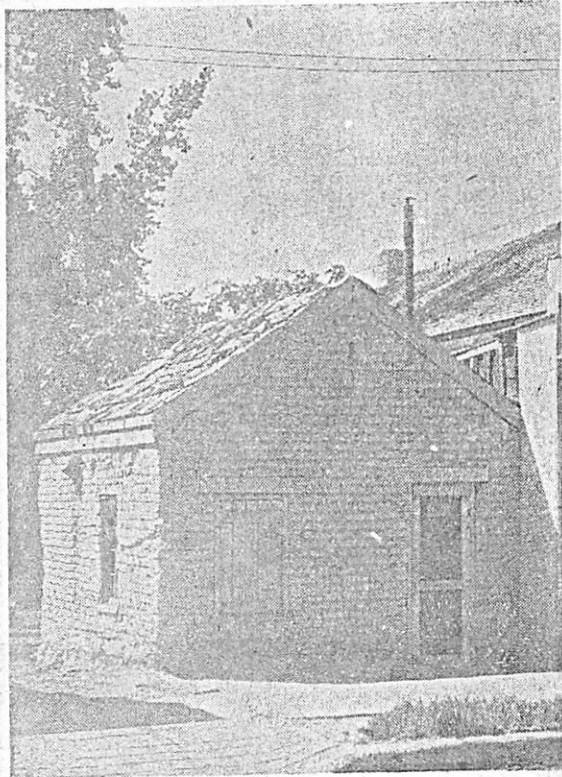
The Civil War was partially responsible for the construction of the first postoffice in the intermountain west. A shortage of semi-tropical crops due to the war helped bring about the settlement of St. George, Utah, and it was here that the first postoffice building was erected.

Pres. Brigham Young established the "Dixie Cotton Mission" in St. George for the purpose of raising cotton and semi-tropical crops which were made scarce by the Civil War. In October of 1861,

adobe building for a postoffice. In later years he constructed a large store adjoining the postoffice, but the little adobe building was the first postoffice building in the intermountain west.

The postoffice still stands in St. George, and is one of the historic buildings of Utah now found on post cards.

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Even before there was a man on the townsite, Articles of Incorporation were drawn up and an application for a postoffice was made. Orson Pratt was requested as postmaster on a petition signed by the families concerned.

In March of 1862 Elder Pratt,

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Sept 1847

## First Mail to Arrive in Utah Brought by a Mormon Company

(Editor's note: This series of "firsts" in the West has been especially prepared so that pictures and sketches will be suitable for inclusion in scrapbooks and albums of Utah Pioneer history.)

(Submitted by Samuel G. Spencer, Salt Lake City.)

First mail to arrive in Utah after the first settlers of 1847 had arrived was brought by a Mormon company of 100, led by Daniel Spencer, which ended the long journey to Salt Lake City in September, 1847.

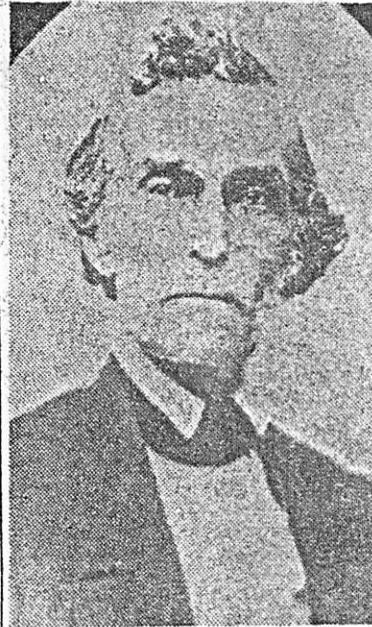
The mail and the first big company to follow Brigham Young's advance party to the valley came in covered wagons

(Note—The Deseret News will pay \$2 for all "Firsts in The West" used in this series. Send them in, with pictures if possible. Also include historical reference or source. Pictures or clippings will be returned immediately after publication.)

drawn by oxen on Sept. 23.

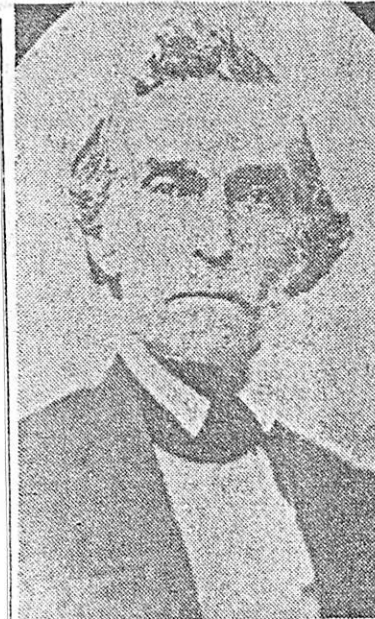
Mr. Spencer, the son of Daniel and Chloe Wilson Spencer, was born July 20, 1794 in West Stockbridge, Mass. Spencer's father was a bodyguard to Gen. George Washington. Daniel and Hiram Spencer helped to pay for the education of their brother Orson Spencer for the Baptist ministry, but all three joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints soon after 1840.

Daniel Spencer served on several missions, was mayor of Nauvoo, a member of the first board



**FIRST "MAIL CARRIER"—**  
Daniel Spencer brought mail into Utah September, 1847.

of regents of the University of Deseret, a member of the assem-



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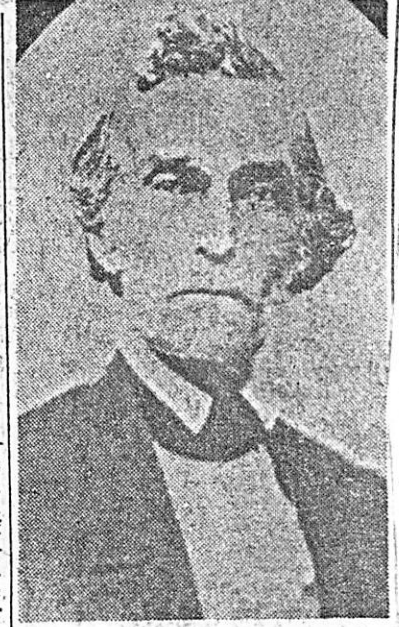
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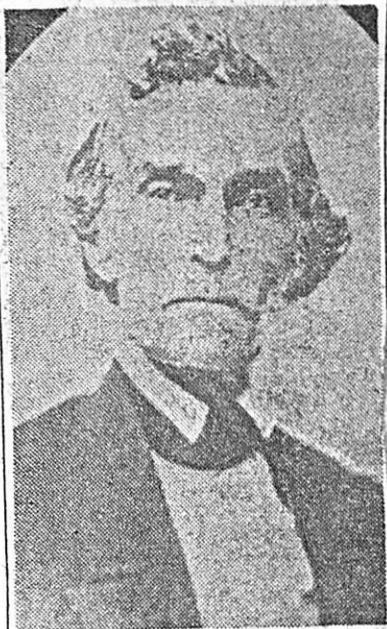


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